



HERTFORDSHIRE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR

Redbourn received a commendation in Communications in this year's Village of the Year Competition. Congratulations to the overall winner: Woolmer Green.

SPECIAL TREES AND WOODLAND PROJECT

Artists are invited to enter artwork inspired by woods in the Chilterns before 17th October for selection for exhibitions to be held in Henley and Luton. Further details available from www.chilternsaonb.org/special or call Liz on 01844 355 525



Councillor Tony Bull presenting certificates to the winners of the Redbourn in Bloom poster competition for Local Competitions
1st Carina Pancha, 2nd Rebecca Berry, 3rd Abigail Garfield

"EXPRESSIONS"

Don Friar would like to thank everyone who purchased a copy of "Expressions" a book of poems by the residents of Redbourn. Sale of the books has raised £152 for Keech Cottage Children's Hospice. Keech Cottage is run by The Pasque Charity and provides free specialist care for children diagnosed with a life-limiting illness. Keech Cottage aims to provide these children with the best quality of life in the time they have. Their families are fully supported throughout the child's illness, at the time of their death and for as long as necessary afterwards. Copies of the book are still available at a cost of £7.50 from Regency Bouquets or Don, telephone number 794392.

FAMILY FUN DAY AT REDBOURN RECREATION CENTRE SATURDAY 20th SEPTEMBER 10am to 3pm

- * Teddy Bear's Picnic
- * Football Competitions and Coaching
- * 3-generation bowls and tips for new players
- * Climbing wall
- * Bouncy Castle
- * Children's Races - egg and spoon, 3-legged, sack race etc
- * Tug-O-War - adults and children
- * Face Painting
- * Rowing Competition in the Gym
- * Table Tennis
- * Short Mat Bowls
- * Skittles
- * Karate Display
- * Guided Tours of the Centre
- * Bar
- * Barbecue
- * Raffle - and much more!

Please support the Centre by attending this Fun Day
Come along and find out what is on offer at your local centre

Fun for all age-groups

FREE ENTRY - DONATIONS WELCOME
For further details please ring 01582 626202

SENIOR SPORTS

ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Graeme Smyth, Chairman, Redbourn Cricket Club, on his award of Senior Sports Administrator of the Year at the Hertfordshire Service to Sport awards ceremony at the University of Hertfordshire earlier this year.

For more information visit the village website www.redbourn.org.uk. Here you can view Council agendas and minutes and send your comments. The website is full of useful information about life in the village. It includes advice about clubs and societies, local birdlife, walks, events, history and so much more. If you wish you can attend our meetings, which are held on the third Thursday of the month at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. (December's meeting is held on the second Thursday of the month). Meetings of the Common Footpaths and Open Spaces are held on the first Thursday of the month.

CUMBERLAND GARDEN

Cumberland Garden has now been open for a number of months and many of you have enjoyed the tranquil delights of the walled garden, just off the busy High Street. You may have noticed that the newly laid path is not as it should be. There were distinct cracks along its length and it appears to be sinking in a couple of places. Miller Homes has commenced remedial works and it is to be hoped that these will be completed before too long!

Although the general design of the garden is acceptable, the planting scheme is a tad uninspired. Elaine Warren, a recently co-opted member of the Parish Council, is working with Redbourn in Bloom, to design a scheme which will give colour and interest throughout the year. We are sure you will agree that the planting schemes designed by Redbourn in Bloom, particularly the one at the entrance to the village, have been spectacular. The blue hyacinths, pansies and white and yellow tulips were a delight and helped raise spirits in what has been a cold, wet Spring and the pink geraniums and white bacopia are now raising the spirits in what has been an equally wet Summer!

The planting scheme for Cumberland Garden is being designed to reflect the seasons, with a mix of trees, shrubs, bulbs and perennial plants. A variety of fruit and nut trees will be included and consideration is being given to making an apple jelly for sale to raise funds for improving the garden.

A number of changes have already been made. Sponsored seats have been installed. These should be a little more comfortable than the benches under the pergola which do not appear to be designed to encourage us to "stand and stare". The Ver Valley Society has installed bird boxes and these have encouraged more wildlife into the garden.

In the interests of sustainability a compost bin has been constructed in one corner and it is intended that all the garden waste will be composted on site.

Volunteers: Seven people have volunteered to open and close the gates and a heartfelt thanks is due to each of them. Obviously more volunteers would be warmly welcomed. If you are willing to join this willing band please contact a Councillor or the Clerk (see contact details on back page).

PARISH CENTRE

We still have not heard from the Planning Inspectorate regarding our application to redevelop the Youth Club building into a Parish Centre. Although planning permission has been received, as the site is on the Common we also need permission from DEFRA.

Drugs...not in our village! Do you know where your child is?

When I was young we were fortunate enough to have quite a lot of freedom. I really do not just think it is a case of that there is more media coverage of unpleasant crimes against children it is the society in which we live. However there was little risk if any of drugs being a threat – and I lived in London! I remember fondly how as a child our house was like the local youth club and as a parent I now understand the underlying principal that my Mother knew where we were even if all our friends ate her out of house and home. I tend to be the same and welcome my own Daughter's friends into the home as much as possible.

Times have changed and this came home to me recently when my Daughter advised that the Police had been into the Junior School to talk to the children about drugs. A great initiative by the way - the younger that the children can be warned off the better as far as I am concerned. This past year there have been so many fatalities involving young people many of which are most certainly drug related. Having 'nothing to do' is not a good enough reason to turn to drugs in my book, but alas it happens and we ignore this fact at our peril.

However, as many of my close associates will agree, what we need is more action in the war against street drugs, more supporting the Police in those aims and to be pro-active as parents in knowing where our children are, with whom and where possible maybe help in the community to 'find things for them to do.' As I have said in previous articles we welcome the long awaited Parish Centre and I really do hope that sufficient parents will help with any youth facilities and that it will be well supported and enjoyed by the children of the village when it opens.

What can we do meanwhile? Support, educate and repeatedly remind our children of the harmful knock on effects of making the mistake of 'trying drugs'. Why they call it 'recreational' beats me. I salute Tony Swendell for his continual battle writing to the Home Office and stating our case for the proper re-classification of drugs and to oppose the complacency that seems to have swept the country.

We do not want drugs in our village and it is up to every individual to do what they can on a preventative basis and to be aware. Try to support those families that for one reason or another may have inadvertently been caught up with drugs and coping with the destruction to their lives that drug taking brings.

There are agencies to help with support and sometimes talking to somebody outside your immediate unit will help. Christine Clayton our Ward Constable reminded me of **FRANK 0800 77 66 00 talktofrank.com/email:frank@talktofrank.com**. This service is available 24 hours 7 days a week and calls are free from landlines and some mobiles. They will tell you what services are available in your local area.

Annie Manning - In association with Neighbourhood Watch

**CONGRATULATIONS TO REDBOURN JUNIOR SCHOOL
on obtaining an outstanding Grade 1 Ofsted Report**

Extracts from the report:

Redbourn Junior School is an outstanding school. The exceptional quality of its provision, including the teaching, the curriculum experienced by the pupils, and the care, guidance and support they receive, all contribute to the outstanding progress that pupils make, both in terms of their academic standards and their personal development.

Teachers plan in great detail, but they plan imaginatively, always with an eye to providing stimulation and enjoyment as well as challenge.

One thread that runs through the teaching is the attention paid to guiding children how to think and how to learn.

Master classes for gifted and talented pupils and booster classes for those with difficulties provide very effective challenge or support for pupils who need it.

Comments from a parent: "I commend all members of staff for literally changing our son's and our whole family's lives. School has become a pleasure rather than an ordeal." "Everyone has been amazing in all aspects of his support". The inspection confirmed these views.

In the national tests at the end of Year 6 in 2007, the overall standards reached were above average. Standards and progress in science were exceptional. In mathematics and English progress is good. The progress being made in lessons visited during the inspection was outstanding.

**REDBOURN YOUTH
COUNCIL**

Are you over 10 years of age and interested in having an influence on village life.

If so, why not join Redbourn Youth Council. You could be part of a team of young people who will help to influence decisions that effect your life and the Redbourn Community.

Contact a councillor or Diane Whiskin on 01582 794832 for further information.

**FIREWORK DISPLAY
8th November 2008**

Volunteers required to help steward event. Contact Diane Whiskin 01582 794832



**Your Care Group Needs You!
Couriers and Others Wanted!**

Have **you** seen that silver Mercedes minibus with the 'go faster' blue stripe, driving daily around the village? Have **you** ever wondered what it actually does? Our many users and the 100 or so volunteers, who already give their time out of a sense of neighbourliness and friendship, know well enough. Our car and bus drivers, escorts, street contacts and organisers of transport and activities, know what a life-line the Care Bus service is. But are **you** aware of our activities? We provide transport to people in need of door-to-door shopping, swimming, various clubs, hospitals, clinics, outings, etc.

Now that you know a little bit more about us, is this something you might like to help with? Demand for our service is ever increasing and we are always looking to recruit more people. Our users tell us that our dedicated volunteers do a grand job. You can help us maintain an appropriate response for assistance.

Right now we have need of more escorts or couriers to look after the welfare and safety of our bus passengers. Young bloods are welcome as well as the not so young! It can be just a few hours a month, a week, whatever you can manage. Don't worry, training will be provided and you will accompany an experienced courier to learn the ropes. Working together with the driver as a team, there is an ongoing learning process. This is both enjoyable and rewarding. Could this important role be right for you?

Interested? Then please complete the tear-off strip below.
It might be the best thing you ever did!

Registered Charity 297955 Queens Jubilee Award Winner

I am interested in volunteering as a Courier/Driver/Transport Organiser/Street Contact

Name _____ Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address _____

_____ Post Code _____

Age ____ Telephone No (01 _____) _____ E-mail _____

GOOD COMPANIONS

You may well recall the words to an old favourite ditty which begins... "Dear Old Pals, Jolly Old Pals". The Good Companions are looking for some "dear old pals" to join them in the Village Hall on alternate Tuesdays, 2 to 4pm for good companionship plus good entertainment! Everyone is very welcome. If you feel in need of some company why not telephone Don Friar on 01582 794392 for

NORRINGTON END FARM

Roger Tate, who lives in Flint Barn, one of the houses on the old farm, would be interested to hear from anyone who used to work there, or has relatives who worked there, especially anyone with old photos. The property is no longer a working farm but he would like to piece together some of its past, its activities and particularly the characters associated with the farm, before the memories are lost. Contact him on 01582 791912

A CLEANER DISTRICT

Keeping St Albans City & District cleaner and greener has become easier. If you spot a problem with dog fouling, grass cuttings on pavements, abandoned vehicles, stray dogs, dumped rubbish, overgrown hedgerows, weed strewn public areas, flyposting, flytipping, spills from refuse collection, accumulation of leaves, graffiti, litter, empty derelict properties, overflowing waste from businesses, bonfires etc, simply call the hotline 0845 125 8000 / 01727 819282 or email a.cleandistrict@stalbans.gov.uk.

PLAY AREAS

A replacement rocking horse has been installed on East Common Play Area - unfortunately, in less than a few months after installation the running boards were vandalised. A piece of play equipment in Flamsteadbury Lane Play Area was completely destroyed by fire and sections of the fencing are regularly broken. If you see or hear anything untoward in the play areas (or, indeed, elsewhere in the village) please contact the police.

DATES for your DIARY

Monday Club for the over 60's - Methodist Church, 2 to 4pm
Contact: David Viollet, 01582 712097

Thursday Pop-In - Village Hall, 9.30 to 11.30am
Stalls: Plants, Books, Cards, Bric-a-Brac

13th September - RIB Horticultural Show
2.15pm, Village Hall

15th September - Redbourn in Bloom AGM
8pm, St Mary's Transept

27th September - Redbourn in Stitches Exhibition
10am to 4.30 pm in St Mary's Church and Transept

11th October - RIB Visit to Westonbirt Arboretum

30th October - RIB Talk on The Winter Garden
Village Hall, 7 for 7.30pm

8th November - Firework Display - Common - stalls open 6.30pm

Contact for RIB activities: Rita Green, 01582 626452

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

Beaumont Ward

Roger Gray
"Stoneleigh", Blackhorse Lane - 01582 76914

James Lowen (Chairman Finance)
2 Mulberry Place - 01582 794039

Maria Maynard
2 High Street

Colin O'Donovan (Chairman Commons)
7 Ver Road - 01582 792382

Ron Stent
10 Saberton Close - 01582 793151

Tony Swendell
6 Monks Close - 01582 792076

Nicholls Ward

Anthony Bull
10 Crouch Hall Gardens - 01582 793756

Liam Beere
"Greyfriars", The Common - 01582 793692

Maxine Crawley
14 Saberton Close - 01582 793760

Elaine Warren
9 Millers Close - 01582 462737

Pat Schofield (Chairman)
82 The Park - 01582 793096

Vivienne Windle
1 Coopers Meadow - 01582 626351

Parish Clerk

Diane Whiskin
Village Hall, 63 High Street Redbourn AL3 7LW
01582 794832

District Councillors

Maxine Crawley, Tony Swendell
(Addresses etc. as above)
Susan Carr
103 Dunstable Road - 01582 794475

County Councillor

Derek Hills
01582 629433

Member of Parliament

Rt Hon Peter Lilley
01582 834344

It is intended that REDBOURN news will be printed quarterly. If there are any subjects you would like to see in the newsletter or if you have an article/letter you would like published please write to the Parish Clerk Diane Whiskin, or e-mail redbournpc@talk21.com